

BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN

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AUTHORIZED
A. C. M. P.

CONFORMS
to the
COMICS
CODE

BLACK DIAMOND

DIAMOND



10¢



WESTERN

APRIL
NO. 18

LEV GLEASON, PUBLISHER - CHARLES BIRO AND BOB WOOD, EDITORS

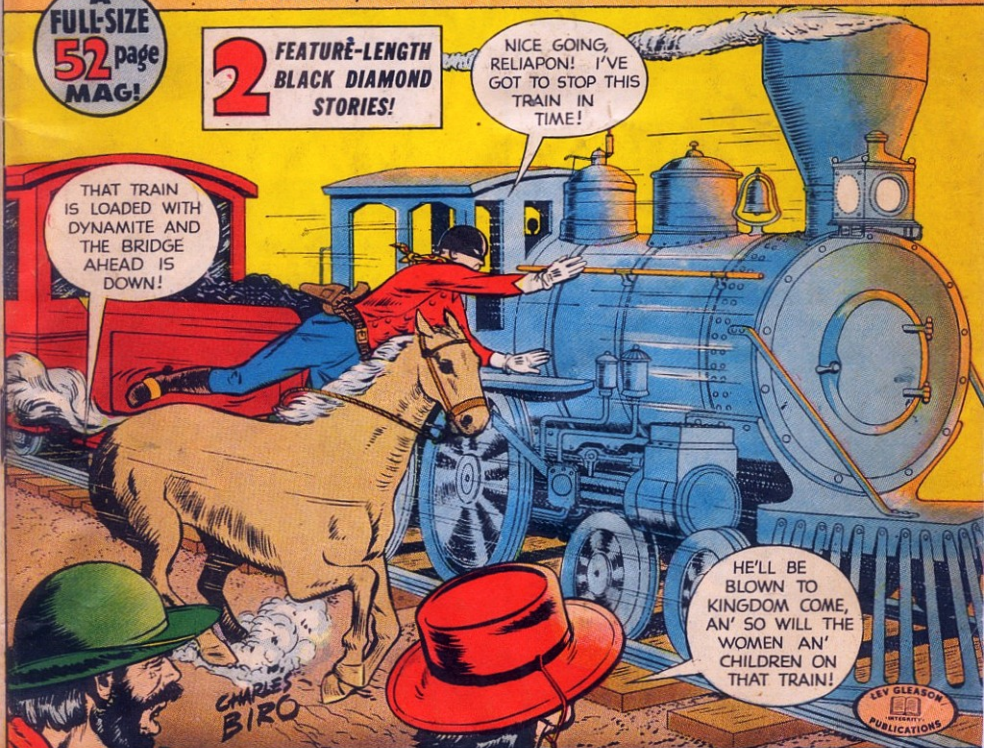
A
FULL-SIZE
52 page
MAG!

2 FEATURE-LENGTH
BLACK DIAMOND
STORIES!

NICE GOING,
RELIAPON! I'VE
GOT TO STOP THIS
TRAIN IN
TIME!

THAT TRAIN
IS LOADED WITH
DYNAMITE AND
THE BRIDGE
AHEAD IS
DOWN!

HE'LL BE
BLOWN TO
KINGDOM COME,
AN' SO WILL THE
WOMEN AN'
CHILDREN ON
THAT TRAIN!



in this
issue:

"BLACK DIAMOND AND
THE RAILROAD WAR!"

"CAN RELIAPON SAVE BLACK DIAMOND'S
IDENTITY FROM BEING REVEALED?"

SEE
INSIDE!



WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM

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BOYS - GIRLS

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OUR
55th
YEAR



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Premiums or Cash Given



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MAIL COUPON

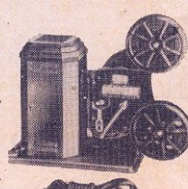
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Ladies - Men



Our
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Premiums - GIVEN - Cash



Our 55th
Year

BE
FIRST

MAIL
COUPON

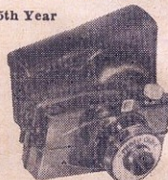
Wrist Watches, Pocket Watches, Footballs (sent postage paid). Other Premiums or Cash Commission now easily yours. **GIVE** pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE easily sold at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit per catalog sent with starting order. WILSON CHEMICAL CO., Dept. F-53, TYRONE, PA.

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Our 55th Year



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pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE easily sold at 25 cents a box (with picture) and remit amount asked under Premium shown in catalog sent with your order, postage paid by us to start. Our 55th year. We are reliable. Act now! WILSON CHEM. CO., Dept. G-53, TYRONE, PA.

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Gentlemen:-Please send me on trial 12 colorful art pictures with 12 boxes of White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE to sell at 25c a box (with picture). I will remit amount within 30 days, select a Premium or keep Cash Commission as fully explained under Premium wanted in catalog sent with my order postage paid to start.

NAME _____ AGE _____
ST _____ R.D. _____ BOX _____
ZONE _____
TOWN _____ NO. _____ STATE _____
Print LAST Name Here _____

Paste on a postal card or mail in an envelope NOW

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the BLACK DIAMOND

AND THE RAILROAD WAR!



CROSS THE OPEN RANGE IN THE 1860'S CAME THE RAILROAD, CHANGING WILDERNESS INTO HOMES, STEADS, TOWNS, AND FINALLY CITIES! BUT THERE WERE MANY WHO OPPOSED THIS PROGRESS AND BACKED IT UP WITH STEEL FORCE! RIDE WITH BOB VALE, THE BLACK DIAMOND, AS HE FIGHTS THE RAILROAD WAR!!

COME ON, RELIAPON!!
YOU CAN'T
FAIL ME
NOW!!

LOOK, LOOK!
A RUNAWAY!!

IT'S THE
EXPLOSIVE
TRAIN!!

RUN
FOR YOUR
LIVES!!

HELP!!
HELP!!

A RUNAWAY EXPLOSIVE TRAIN ROARS DOWN THE TRACK AT FULL STEAM, STRAIGHT FOR THE CENTER OF TOWN AND ANOTHER ENGINE! RACING ALONGSIDE IN AN ATTEMPT TO SWING ABOARD AND AVERT TRAGEDY, IS THE BLACK DIAMOND ON VALIANT RELIAPON... ONE SLIP AND THE TOWN IS DOOMED!

By William
OVERGARD



YIP-YIP-

YAHH!



CASH!
CASH!
THEY'RE
HERE!



THE RAILROAD,
CASH! THE RAILROAD!
THEY'RE CROSSING THE
SOUTH FENCE
NOW!

WHAT?



BO! THEY'RE GOING TO BUCK
CASH HARDING! WELL, BY JINGLES!
THEY'LL SOON WISH THEY HADN'T!
GET BACK ON THAT HORSE,
WADDIE, AND START RIDING! I
WANT EVERY VAQUERO, PUNCHER,
AND BUCKEROO IN OUR TERRITORY
HERE AT SUNUP!



NOW
GIT!

YEEEPAAA!



WELL, MEN, I THINK YOU ALL KNOW
WHY YOU'RE HERE! THE RAILROAD HAS
SEEN FIT TO GO AGAINST OUR WISHES!
THEY'RE PUTTING THEIR TRACKS DOWN
ON OUR RANGES RIGHT NOW! AND
BEFORE THE NEXT MOON, THE PLAINS
WILL BE SWARMING WITH SQUATTERS,
AND THE LIKE, PUTTING UP
FENCES AND SUCH...

BUT WHAT
CAN WE DO?
THE RAILROAD
HAS THE RIGHT
OF WAY!

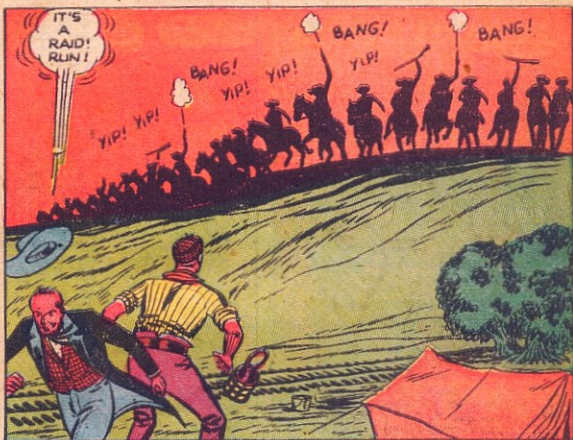


RIGHT OF WAY BE
HANGED! WE DIDN'T
HAVE NO RIGHT OF WAY
WHEN WE DROVE THE
WILKINS AND CRITTERS
OFF OUR LAND! WE
FOUGHT FOR IT AND
WON IT! AND WE CAN
DO IT AGAIN—RIGHT,
MEN?

RIGHT!

HURRAY!

BANG!





WHERE ARE WE OFF TO THIS TIME, DIAMOND?

THE OPEN RANGE, BUMPER, TO SETTLE A RAIL-ROAD WAR—



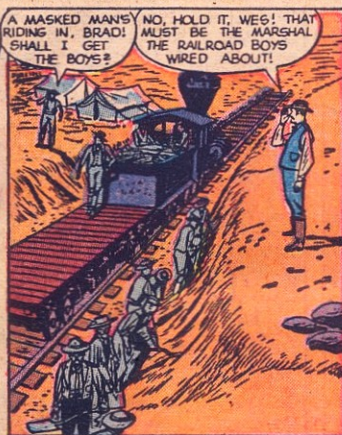
RAILROAD WAR, EH? HAVE THEY GOT ANY IDEA WHO'S BEHIND IT?

IT'S THE CATTLEMEN IN THE AREA! THEY THINK THE RAILROAD IS INVADING THEIR RANGES TO BRING SCATTERERS AND INTERLOPERS—THEY DON'T REALIZE THAT THE RAILROAD WILL ALSO BE USED FOR THEIR BENEFIT, TO SHIP CATTLE TO MARKET!



AREN'T WE ALMOST THERE, BOB?

THAT SHOULD BE SMOKE FROM THE WORKING PARTY UP AHEAD! COME ON!



A MASKED MAN'S RIDING IN, BRAD! SHALL I GET THE BOYS?

NO, HOLD IT, WES! THAT MUST BE THE MARSHAL THE RAILROAD BOYS WIRED ABOUT!



...AND THAT'S THE STORY, MR. MARSHAL! WHEN THEY HIT, IT'S HARD AND FAST! IT'S ALL OVER BEFORE WE KNOW IT—AND THE DAMAGE THEY DO IN ONE NIGHT TAKES WEEKS TO REPAIR! COME ON—I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT I MEAN!



ARE YOU SURE THAT IT'S CASH HARDING WHO'S BEHIND THIS?

POSITIVE! RAIDING PARTIES ARE NOTHING NEW TO HAW! REMEMBER, HE WAS WITH QUANTRELL'S REBELS DURING THE WAR—BUT COME ON, WE'VE GOT BETTER PROOF!



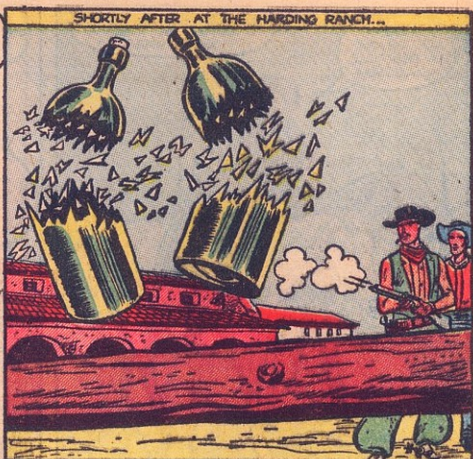
THIS HORSE WAS CAPTURED, LUCKILY, DURING THE LAST RAID! SEE THE BRAND!

C. H.! THAT'S CASH HARDING'S MARK ALL RIGHT—I GUESS WE COULDN'T ASK FOR BETTER PROOF!



I THINK THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE BLACK DIAMOND TO HAVE A LITTLE TALK WITH THE HARDING BOYS! COME ON, BUMPER!

GODD LUCK TO YOU, DIAMOND! BUT I'M WARNING YOU, THIS HARDING IS A VICIOUS CHARACTER!



SHORTLY AFTER AT THE HARDING RANCH...



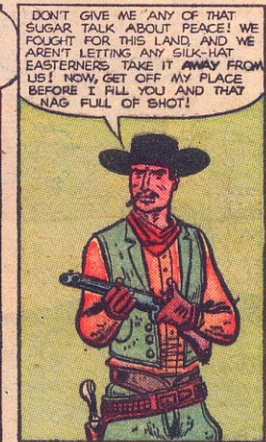
HOW'S THAT, WADDIE? RIGHT THROUGH THE MIDDLE!

GREAT, BOSS! HEY, LOOK WHO'S RIDING UP! IF MY EYES AREN'T GOING BAD, IT'S THAT MARSHAL, THE BLACK DIAMOND! WORD'S GOT AROUND HE'S WORKING WITH THE RAILROAD CROWD!



DON'T BOTHER GETTING OFF THAT FANCY HORSE, MR. MASKED MAN! YOU AREN'T STAYING LONG!

HARDING, I'M HERE TO TALK PEACE! DON'T YOU REALIZE BY FIGHTING THE RAILROAD, YOU'RE RETARDING PROGRESS IN THIS TERRITORY?



DON'T GIVE ME ANY OF THAT SUGAR TALK ABOUT PEACE! WE FOUGHT FOR THIS LAND AND WE AREN'T LETTING ANY SILK-HAT EASTERNERS TAKE IT AWAY FROM US! NOW, GET OFF MY PLACE BEFORE I FILL YOU AND THAT NAG FULL OF SHOT!

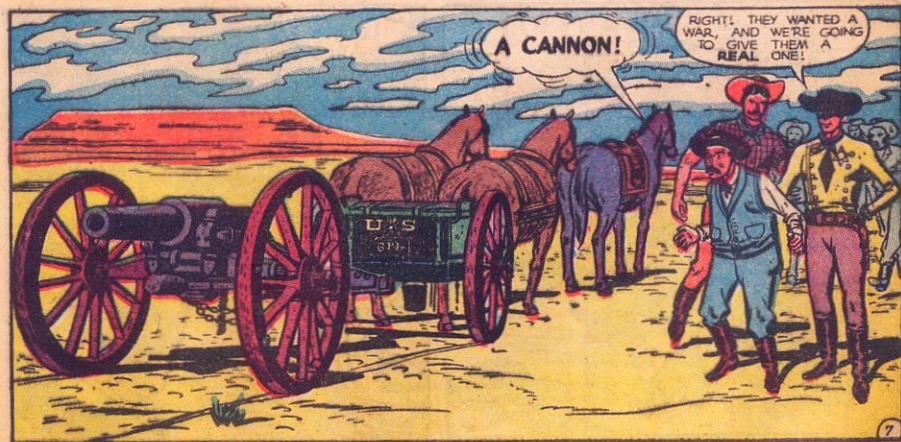


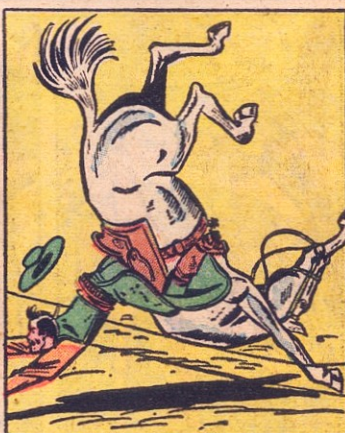
NOT TODAY, YOU WONT!



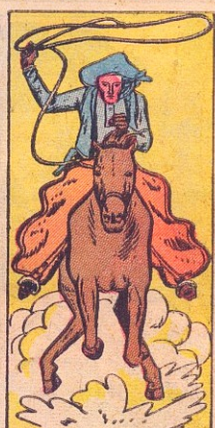
HERE-NOW TRY IT, NASTY MAN!

THAT'S JUST A WARNING, HARDING! TAKE MY ADVICE AND LAY OFF THE RAILROADS! LET'S GO, BUMPER!









BEFORE THE RIDER CAN SWING ABOARD AND STOP IT, THE TRAIN STEAMS ON THE NARROW TRESTLE...



AFTER IT, YOU FOOLS!
IT'S TOO LATE— IT'S ON THE TRESTLE!
IT'S A RUNAWAY, NOW! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

LOOK-UP ON THE HILL, BOSS! IT'S THE BLACK DIAMOND!



WHAT! WHY THAT BLASTED SNOOPER! I'LL FIX HIM!

HOLD IT, CASH! DON'T FORGET HE'S A GOVERNMENT MARSHAL!

HARDING! WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE'S THAT TRAIN GOING AT FULL SPEED!



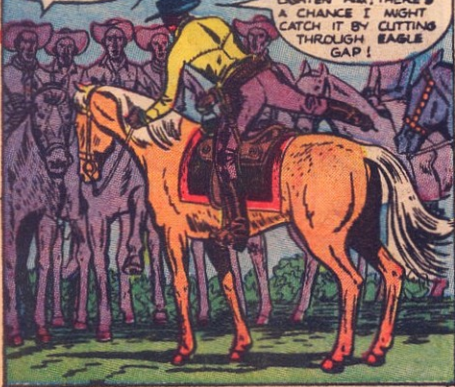
JUST A LITTLE ACCIDENT! WHEN WE RODED THE ENGINEER HE CAME OUT A LITTLE PAST AND KICKED THE THROTTLE! EVERYBODY ELSE JUMPED OFF—NO HARM DONE!



NO HARM DONE! WHY, YOU DIRTY RAT! IT'S HEADING FULL-BLAST FOR TOWN! AND THERE'S ANOTHER TRAIN WAITING THERE! WHEN THOSE TWO MEET—AND THAT LOAD OF EXPLOSIVES GOES OFF, THERE WON'T BE ENOUGH OF THAT TOWN WORTH PICKING UP!

HOLY SMOKE! MY WIFE AND KID ARE THERE!

AND MY KUN!

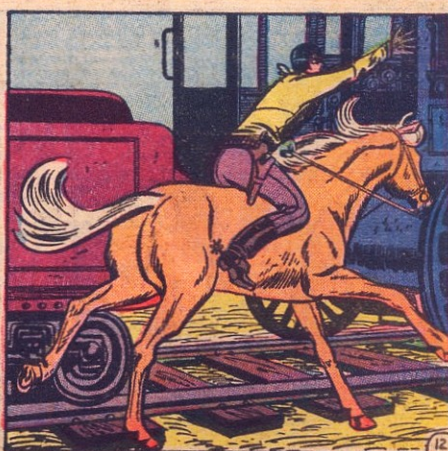


QUICK, THEN, HELP ME STRIP THE GEAR OFF MY HORSE TO LIGHTEN HIM! THERE'S A CHANCE I MIGHT CATCH IT BY CUTTING THROUGH EAGLE GAP!

DIAMOND, IF YOU CAN STOP THAT TRAIN, I SWEAR MY MEN WILL NEVER FIGHT AGAINST THE RAILROAD AGAIN!



IF I DON'T, HARDING, YOU'D BETTER START RIDING, BECAUSE I WON'T REST UNTIL I FIND YOU— ADIOS!



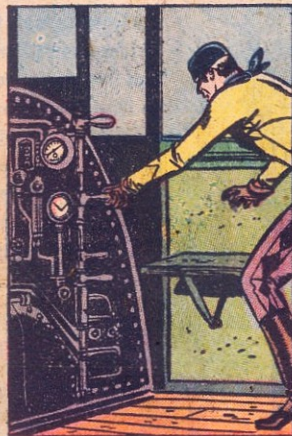


LOOK! LOOK! THAT'S THE EXPLOSIVE TRAIN HIGHBALLING IT INTO TOWN!!

IT AIN'T BLOWING! MUST BE LOOSE!! RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!!



GOT...TO... REACH IT...!



HT STOPPED!!

SSSSSS



DIAMOND - ME AND THE BOYS SEEN WE WERE WRONG WHEN THAT RUNAWAY TRAIN ALMOST KILLED OFF OUR OWN FOLKS, RIGHT HERE IN TOWN!

THAT'S THE TROUBLE WHEN YOU TAKE THE LAW IN YOUR OWN HANDS, HARDING! YOU ALWAYS END UP HURTING INNOCENT PEOPLE!



WE LEARNED OUR LESSON! WE'RE WILLING TO HELP THE RAILROAD OUT TO MAKE UP FOR ANY DAMAGE!

THE RETRIBUTION IS UP TO THE RAILROAD AUTHORITIES... BUT WHAT- EVER HAPPENS, I'M SURE YOU'VE LEARNED ONE LESSON! NOTHING CAN STAND IN THE WAY OF PROGRESS - THE RAILROADS ARE OPENING UP THIS COUNTRY, AND THE OLD FEARS AND PREJUDICES WILL FALL BY THE WAYSIDE!

THE END

IT'S AMAZING



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THE HARDSHIPS OF THE PIONEERS WERE ALMOST UNSURMOUNTABLE, EVEN WITHOUT THE CONSTANT ATTACKS OF BRUTAL OUTLAWS, WHO LIVED ON THE BOOBY OF WAGON TRAINS THEY ATTACKED! TWO OF THE MOST NOTORIOUS AND HEARTLESS OF THESE LAND PIRATES WERE "COCKEYED" MUNSON AND "CHUCK" HOGGS, WHOSE RAIDS WERE MAKING TRAVEL THROUGH THE OHIO VALLEY IMPOSSIBLE. LIEUTENANT SCOUT TED ATKINS AND COLONEL GEORGE LANE BROUGHT THE OUTLAWS TO JUSTICE AT THE END OF A ROPE!

"COCKEYED" MUNSON

"CHUCK" HOGGS

ART BY FRED GARRETT

A TRUE WILD WEST STORY

THE LAND PIRATES OF CAVE INN

CAVE INN

UNCLE SAM TOLD ME TO SHUT UP COURT MESSINER. I FOUND YOU MUNSON WERE HANGING YOU—RIGHT NOW! YOU CAN TAKE YOUR REPORT TO THE DEVIL!

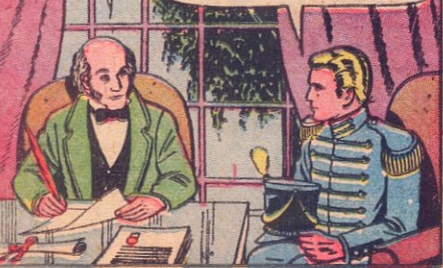
SURE? I-LOOK, MISTER, YA CAN'T GET ANGRY WITH THIS—I GOT A RIGHT TO A COURT TRIAL! YA GOIN' TO REPORT THIS TO TH' GOVERNMENT!



WASHINGTON, D.C., 1859, PRESIDENT MARTIN VAN BUREN SUMMONED COLONEL GEORGE LANE TO THE WHITE HOUSE ON A SERIOUS AND URGENT MATTER...

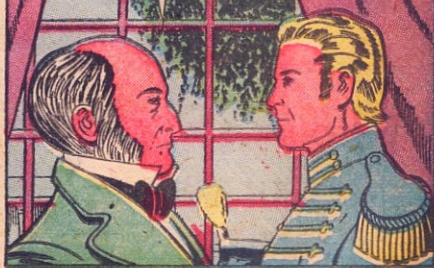
ONE OF THESE BANDS HAS A GRIM SENSE OF HUMOR, COLONEL! ALONG THE OHIO TRAIL THEIR LEADER, A ROGUE NAMED MUNSON, HAS POSTED SIGNS INVITING TRAVELLERS TO VISIT HIS INN! YOU CAN SEE WHAT A TEMPTATION IT IS TO WEARY WAGON TRAIN CREWS!

IF THEY ACCEPT THE INVITATION, THEY ARE SET UPON AND ROBBED!



WORSE! MANY OF THE MEN ARE MURDERED FOR TRYING TO RESIST! I NEEDN'T TELL YOU, COLONEL LANE, THAT UNLESS WE CLEAN OUT THOSE RUFFIANS, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE DIFFICULTY GETTING PEOPLE TO SETTLE WEST OF THE MISSOURI BORDER!

I'LL DO THERE AS SOON AS I CAN, MR. PRESIDENT, BUT MEANWHILE, I SHALL ASSIGN A SCOUT TO ACCOMPANY EACH WAGON TRAIN!



EVEN AT THAT MOMENT A WAGON TRAIN WAS HEADED WEST! THE TIRED TRAVELLERS WERE GREETED BY A SIGN THAT OFFERED RELIEF FROM THEIR STRENUOUS JOURNEY...

"I'D NEVER HAVE BELIEVED WE'D FIND SOMETHING LIKE THIS OUT HERE, SETH! WHAT DO YOU THINK?"

"IT'S JUST WHAT WE NEED, JOE! IT'LL MAKE THE REST OF OUR TRIP SEEM A LOT EASIER!"

"WELCOME TO 'CAVE-INN' ENTERTAINMENT LIQUOR & LODGINS 'COOKED' MUTTON PROP."



WAIT TILL EVERY LAST PRAIRIE SCOOONER IS PARKED IN THIS CLEARIN'! AND I'LL DRILL THE FIRST GUY THAT POKES HIS SKULL OUT OR SHOOTS BEFORE I GIVE THE SIGNAL!





MORRISSEY, HIGGINS! GET THE EMPTY WAGON TRAINS DOWN TO THE RIVER AND BURN 'EM! THE REST OF YA GET ON WITH THE BURIN'!



SEVERAL DAYS LATER...

ANOTHER TRAIN, CHEF! BUT ONLY SEVEN WAGONS THIS TIME...

NOTHIN' WORTH BOTHERIN' WITH HILL! LEAVE THIS ONE FOR HOGGS!



I RECKON IT ISN'T WORTH THE TROUBLE TO GO AFTER SUCH SMALL PICKINS, CHUCK, BUT IT ISN'T OFTEN WE EVEN GET SEVEN WAGONS!

YAH! IT'S THAT THEIVIN, COOKEYED MUNSUN! I'M TIRED OF PICKIN' OVER THAT VULTURES LEAVIN'S!



WE GOT AS MANY MEN AS MUNSUN, HAMMOND— ONLY WERE IN A BAD LOCATION! FROM NOW ON, WERE GOIN' OUT TO MEET THE WAGONS BEFORE THEY GET TO "CAVE INN"! IF WE DON'T LIKE IT, LET HIM FIGHT US!



IT'S HOGGS! HE'S OUT IN ON OUR BUSINESS, COOKEYED! HE AN' HIS MEN JUST CAPTURED TWENTY-FOUR WAGONS!

WANNA EVERYBODY OUT- AND READY TO RIDE! WERE GOIN' TO DO SOME SHOOTIN'!



WE WON'T MAKE OUT SO GOOD THAT WAY— TRYIN' TO FIGHT IT OUT WITH 'EM! THEY'LL JUST HOLE UP IN THEIR CAMP...

YEAH, AND WED LOSE TOO MANY MEN DIGGIN' 'EM OUT! I GOT ANOTHER IDEA, HILL— I WANT YOU TO TAKE A MESSAGE TO HOGGS!



...AN COOKEYED SAYS IF YOU AREN'T TOO YELLOW, COME TO HIS PLACE AN' FIGHT IT OUT WITH 'EM! MAN! TO MAN!

MA! MA! TELL THAT COOT I'LL BE THERE! MA! MA! WITH HIS EYES, TH' SAFEST PLACE WILL BE WHERE HE THINKS HE'S AWIN'!



MEANWHILE, AT FORT HAYS, KENTUCKY...

MY MEN AND I ARE STARTING OUT IN SEVERAL DAYS, ATKINS— JUST AS SOON AS LIEUTENANT WARD GETS HERE WITH THE RE-INFORCEMENTS! TILL THEN WERE COUNTING ON YOU TO TAKE THESE PEOPLE THROUGH SAFELY TO MISSOURI!

I'VE BEEN GIVIN' THEM INSTRUCTIONS ON FIGHTIN' AWBUSH! THERE'LL BE TROUBLE FOR ANYBODY TRYIN' TO ATTACK US!





MEMORABLE...

STOP FOR A REST! CADMAN, WE'RE IN BAD TERRITORY! WE GOT TO KEEP A SHARP EYE OPEN FOR OUTLAWS!

I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT, TOO, AARON! I DON'T WANT TO WORRY THE FOLKS, BUT WE'RE READY!

I HAD TO 'COME - SURE' ENTERTAINMENT LIQUOR & COCKEYED MASHON WINE.



GOOD! UNLESS IN A BAD PLACE, THAT SOUNDS LIKE WHAT WE'VE BEEN TOLD TO WATCH OUT FOR!



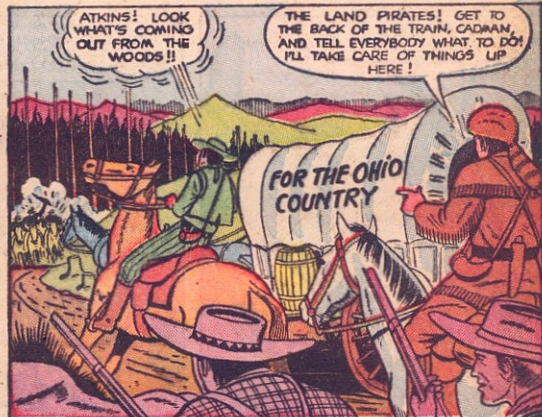
THEN WE'D BETTER CLEAR OUT BEFORE THE OUTLAWS FIND OUT WE'RE AROUND! FIRST WE BETTER TAKE THAT SIGN DOWN!

NO, CADMAN! LET IT STAY TO WARN OTHER TRAINS!



I DIDN'T COUNT 'EM, CHIEF, BUT IT'S A BIG OUTFIT! AN' THEY HAVE A SPECIAL GUIDE WITH 'EM!

THAT WON'T HELP THEM ANY! ON YOUR HORSES - QUICK!



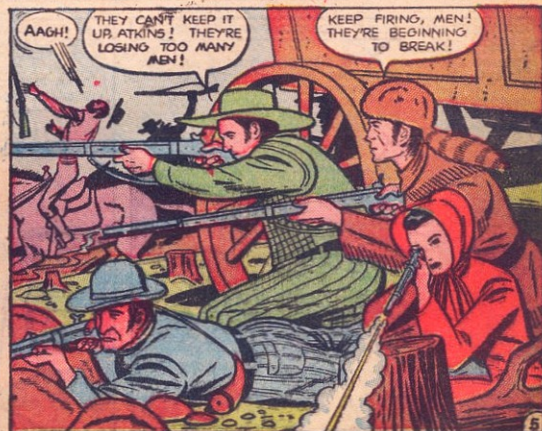
ATKINS! LOOK WHAT'S COMING OUT FROM THE WOODS!!

THE LAND PIRATES! GET TO THE BACK OF THE TRAIN, CADMAN, AND TELL EVERYBODY WHAT TO DO! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THINGS UP HERE!



HOLD UP, MEN! I DON'T LIKE WHAT'S GOIN' ON! HOGGOS!

HUH? NEVER SEEN TH' LIKES OF IT BEFORE! THEY USUALLY TRY TO RUN FOR IT! WELL, LET'S GET 'EM ANYHOW, COCKEYED!



AAGH!

THEY CAN'T KEEP IT UP, ATKINS! THEY'RE LOSING TOO MANY MEN!

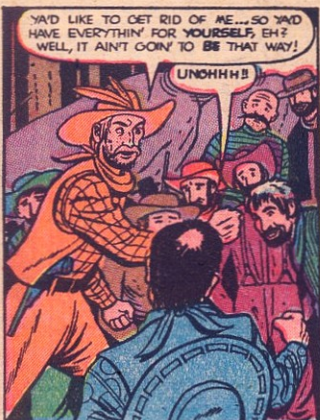
KEEP FIRING, MEN! THEY'RE BEGINNING TO BREAK!



I TOLD YA I DIDN'T LIKE IT, HOGGS! HALF OF OUR MEN GONE...AN ON ACCOUNT OF YOU, YOU STUPID DONKEY! LETS GET THEM, ANYHOW...C'MON!

WHY, YA LYIN' SNAKE! I DIDN'T MAKE YA COME WITH ME! TOO BAD THEY DIDN'T GET YOU, TOO!

LATER, FOLLOWING THE RETREAT...



YA'D LIKE TO GET RID OF ME...SO YA'D HAVE EVERYTHIN' FOR YOURSELF, EH? WELL, IT AIN'T GOIN' TO BE THAT WAY!

UNHHH!



OOMP!!

I BEEN LOOKIN' FOR AN EXCUSE, COCKEYED! NOW, YOU'RE GOIN' TO GET IT!



YOU'LL THINK TWICE BEFORE YOU TAKE A POKE AT ME AGAIN!



MUNSON, WE SAID WE WOULDN'T GET ANYWHERE FIGHTIN' EACH OTHER! YA CAN MAKE UP YOUR MIND NOW! IS IT GOIN' TO BE THAT WAY, OR DO I PUT A SLUG THROUGH YOUR UGLY HEAD?

'YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT, HOGGS! I'LL REMEMBER NEXT TIME! I'LL REMEMBER!



HOGGS MADE ME LOOK LIKE A FOOL IN FRONT OF MY MEN! HE WANTED IT THAT WAY! THEY'LL BLAME ME FOR NOT GETTIN' ANY LOOT! THERELL BE ANOTHER TIME, THOUGH!



THREE WEEKS LATER, SCOUT TED ATKINS HAD RETURNED TO FORT HAYS!

WE HAD SEVERAL WOUNDED, COLONEL, BUT WE DROVE 'EM OFF! THAT'S NOT ENOUGH—WEVE GOT TO CLEAN OUT MUNSON FOR GOOD!

IF YOU COULD WAIT ANOTHER DAY, WE'D GO WITH YOU, ATKINS! OUR REINFORCEMENTS ARRIVE TOMORROW AND I CAN'T LEAVE THIS FORT WITHOUT ITS NORMAL COMPLEMENT! AT ANY RATE, WE'LL CATCH UP TO YOU BEFORE YOU GET TO OUT-LAW TERRITORY!



IF BY CHANCE WE HAVEN'T JOINED YOU, STOP TEN MILES BEFORE 'CAVE INN' AND WAIT FOR US! I THINK WE CAN PUT AN END TO THESE BUNLDERERS ONCE AND FOR ALL!

WE'LL BE LOOKING FOR YOU, COLONEL LANE!



YOU GOT SOME IDEA YOU'RE RUNNIN' THIS OUTFIT, HOGGS?

NO, COCKEYED, WE'RE PARDONERS, AIN'T WE? I'M JUST SUGGESTIN' IF WE GO FIFTEEN MILES EAST AN' AMBUSH THE NEXT WAGON TRAIN WE COULD TAKE 'EM BY SURPRISE!

MEANWHILE, BACK AT CAVE INN...

YEAH, IT SOUNDS LIKE OUR ONLY CHANCE TO KEEP 'EM FROM ORGANIZING A FIGHT AGAINST US! GOOD THING WE THOUGHT OF IT!

HUH? SURE, COCKEYED, WE GOT BRAINS!

THEY HAVE TO GO THROUGH MACKLIN PASS! ANY OTHER WAY'D TAKE THEM A HUNDRED MILES OFF THE TRAIL!

THE BOYS ARE WAITIN' ON BOTH SIDES! EVEN IF THERE WAS ROOM ENOUGH TO TURN A WAGON AROUND, THEY WOULDN'T HAVE TIME!

EVERYBODY'S GETTIN' KIND OF TIRED. ATKINS! ARE WE GOIN' TO STOP SOON?

FIVE MORE MILES, BENTLEY! THEN WE'RE GOIN' TO WAIT FOR COLONEL LANE! WE'LL NEED THE REST, 'CAUSE WE'RE LIKELY TO HAVE SOME HARD FIGHTIN' TO DO!



ONE UP OR WE'LL KILL EVERY ONE OF YA!

ATKINS! WE'VE BEEN TRICKED! WE'VE GOT TO MAKE A DASH!

THERE ISN'T A CHANCE, BENTLEY! WE'RE TRAPPED! THEY'D SLAUGHTER US!

BANDITS! A TRAP!! DON'T TRY TO FIGHT IT OUT! TOSS YOUR GUNS INTO THE BRUSH! WE'LL NEED 'EM LATER!



IF YOU CLEAR OUT OF THIS WAGON, MA'AM, YA WON'T GIT HURT!

GET EVERY HORSE, INCLUDING THE GUIDES! DON'T LEAVE THEM ANY GUNS OR THEY MAY TAKE POT SHOTS AT US!

WELL, NOW IF THIS AINT RIGHT CONVENIENT!

CHUCK, YOU TAKE THE TAIL END OF THE TRAIN! I'LL TAKE THE LEAD!

ALL RIGHT, COCKEYED! YOU AFRAID THEY MIGHT THROW STONES AT YA FROM BEHIND? HA, HA! THE BOYS ARE BEGINNING TO THINK YOU'RE YELLOW!





HA, HA, HA!

HAVE A GOOD LAUGH, YA HYENA! THERE WON'T BE NOTHIN' LEFT OF YA TO LAUGH AT SOON!



HOGGS—LOOK OUT! COCKEYED'S AIMIN' AT THE AMMUNITION WAGON!

MUNSON! N...NO! DON'T!

I'LL MISS YA, HOGGS—EVERY BIT OF YA!



ABOUT SIX HOURS LATER, COLONEL LANE AND HIS SOLDIERS CAUGHT UP WITH MUNSON'S LATEST VICTIMS.

YOU DID THE RIGHT THING NOT PUTTING UP A FIGHT, ATKINS! I WANT TO ORGANIZE THE MEN INTO A POSSE, BUT IT WON'T DO ANY GOOD WITHOUT GUNS!

WE THREW OUR GUNS INTO THE BUSHES, COLONEL, BUT WE HAVE NO HORSES! IT'LL BE NIGHT BEFORE WE CAN REACH 'CAVE INN' ON FOOT!



IF WE CAN WAIT TILL MORNING WE'LL HAVE 'EM TRAPPED, BUT THAT GUARD MIGHT SPOT US BEFORE THEN!

NO, HE WON'T!



GOT HIM, COLONEL! NOW WE CAN PARK RIGHT OUTSIDE THOSE CAVES TILL DAWN!

UGGH...



HUH? HOW IN BLAZES DID YOU GET HERE?

WHAT'S THE MATTER, MUNSON? YOU DON'T LOOK SO HAPPY TO SEE US!

GET THEM ALL OUT HERE! WE'LL GIVE THEM A TRIAL—THAT'S MORE THAN THEIR VICTIMS GOT!



GIMME A CHANCE, WILL YA? LET ME TALK IT OVER WITH YA!

YOU'VE HAD YOUR TRIAL, MUNSON—AND YOUR SAY! YOU'VE BEEN FOUND GUILTY AS CHARGED, AND YOU'RE GOING TO DIE FOR YOUR CRIMES! THIS TERRITORY MUST BE MADE SAFE FOR LAW-ABIDING FOLK!

THE END

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- She Has Moving Eyes

Here she is now, that CUDDLY HUG-GABLE, love-me baby BEAUTIFUL BLONDIE. She is 13" high and her soft, smooth body is of REAL RUBBER WONDERSKIN. SQUEEZE HER AND SHE GOES... just like a baby. Every little mother will want Blondie for her carriage. She's got Blondie curls aplenty, and they're thick and long and like real hair. Blondie's hair can be put up in ribbons at night and tucked her in bed and watch her long lashes sleepily close those big blue eyes. She screams loudly all her next day of fun. Every child will have the time of her life giving her body a bath and powdering her soft, baby RUBBER WONDERSKIN. She comes dressed in bright BIRTHDAY PARTY dress, cute panties, shoes and stockings. Wonderful, beautiful, amazing doll... a years for this unbelievably low price! SEND NO MONEY! Remit with order and we pay postage or order C.O.D. plus postage.

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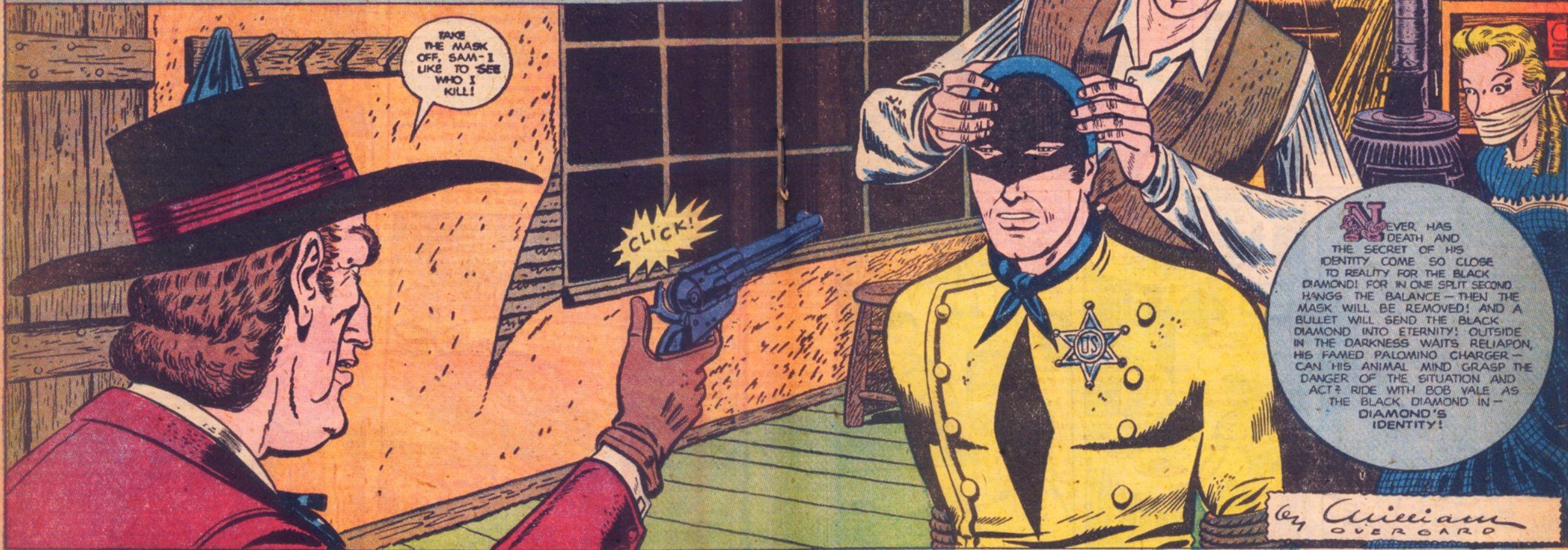
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IDENTITY FROM BEING REVEALED?



TAKE THE MASK OFF, SAM—I LIKE TO SEE WHO I KILL!

YOU'LL REGRET THIS, BALSO!

AT LAST WE GET A LOOK AT THE FAMOUS BLACK DIAMOND! A LAST LOOK!

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by William OVERGARD



HOW CAN YOU STAND THAT MILK BUMPER?

IF IT'S GOOD FOR A COW, IT'S GOOD FOR ME!

THAT'S NO BULL! HA, HA, HA! FUNNY, HUH? GET IT?



WHY DON'T YOU GET LOST, SLADE? IT'S BAD ENOUGH HAVING YOU SPONGE OFF THE CUSTOMERS, BUT THOSE CORNY GAGS!

MIND YOUR OWN AFFAIRS, BARKEEP! I GOT BUSINESS WITH BUMPER!

BUSINESS— WITH ME?



YEP, BUT IT'S REAL PRIVATE— LIKE... LET'S GO INTO THIS BOOTH!

ALL RIGHT, BUT WHAT IS IT?



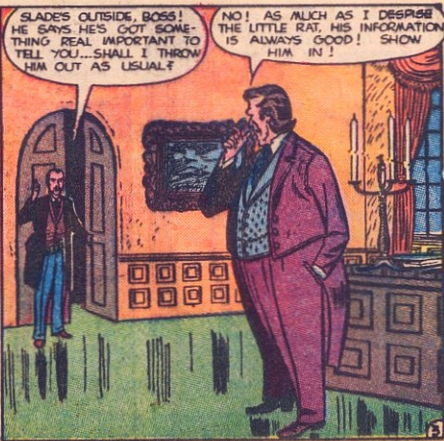
NOTHING MUCH— JUST THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE TO FIND OUT THAT I KNOW BOB VALE IS THE BLACK DIAMOND!

WHAT?



HEY— DON'T G-GET EXCITED, B-BUMPER! I HAVEN'T TOLD ANYBODY YET...

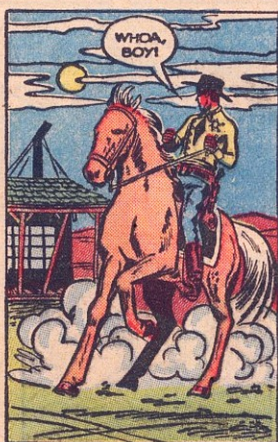
YET?

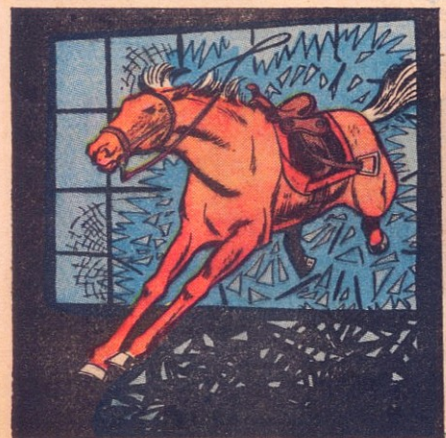


















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NAME TO BE ENGRAVED _____

POSSUM IN POLITICS!

EVER since Possum Nublick had hit the booming gold town of Moccasin Gulch, he had been about the most worthless, sorry no-good the town had seen—and that in a place where muckers were thick as fleas. There was one difference between him and the others. The average newcomer, no matter how disreputable or how lazy, was at least energetic and ambitious when it came to hunting for gold. Otherwise, why make the long and arduous journey to Moccasin Gulch? But Possum didn't even have that. How he got there, nobody knew, but they did know that he had been very much in evidence—in a most obnoxious way—since he had arrived six months before. His arrival itself was enough to fix him in the scornful minds of the citizenry . . .

Joe Garrigan, the hot-tempered bar-keep at the Gold Coin Saloon, had been completely baffled all evening. His whiskey was disappearing faster than it was being paid for. The bottles were out on the bar, according to established Western custom, but that wasn't where the trouble lay. Everytime he'd pull a fresh bottle out from the stocks under the bar, he'd find it half empty—yet no one had been behind the bar except himself! He couldn't figure it out.

"What's the matter, Joe? What d'ya keep looking under the bar for? Snakes? Is your own liquor gettin' the best of ya?" cried Sam Hart, a customer. There was a burst of raucous laughter.

"Keep your trap shut, Sam!" yelled Garrigan, as he glared back. "Somebody's stealing my whiskey and I can't figure out who. Just be careful it ain't you!"

"It's your second nature that's drinking it all up, Joe, and ya don't even know it!" There was more laughter, but this time it was interrupted by the crash of a bottle. Joe looked down at his feet, and there saw a trickle of liquor coming out of the cupboard where he stored his little-used bar equipment. With a roar he opened the doors. There, crouched at the bottom, and very, very drunk, was the small, round figure of Newcomer Nublick.

"What the . . ." shrieked Garrigan, as he reached down and grabbed Nublick by the collar and dragged him out. "Why, you low-down, thievin' so-and-so! You drunken no-good, playin' possum with my whiskey. Well, I'll show you what I do with *possums* like you!" He cuffed poor Nublick back and forth. Then, with a mighty heave, he lifted him up and hung him by the belt from an enormous coat rack fastened to the wall. "There you are, up in a tree where you belong. And you can stay there until you

sober up enough to start washing dishes for me!"

From that day on, Nublick was known only as "Possum." The unhappy experience didn't quench Nublick's everlasting bragging and conniving, nor did it make him settle down to honest labor. Nobody could quite figure out what he lived on, unless it was from his petty thievery and his small winnings at poker.

Then the tables were turned.

One night Possum Nublick struck it rich, although he didn't know it at the time. It was one of the rare nights when he seemed to be picking up more than one poker pot. To be sure, he wasn't much ahead, but he had cleaned out at least one grizzled old miner, Sam Hart. Old Sam threw in his last poker chip, but it wasn't enough. "Tell ya what I'll do. I'll match a fourth interest in my claim against the pot." Possum laughed, "Why, that claim isn't worth as much as the stakes you've posted on it. Oh well, it's a small pot. Make it a half interest, and I'll let you stay in." Possum picked up the pot a minute later, topping Sam's two pair with three of a kind. He held Sam's note for half-ownership of the claim in such low regard he almost threw it away. But luckily for him, he didn't. Forgotten, the note remained in his pocket for two months—until the day Old Sam came roaring into town.

"I've done it!" he shouted, "I've done it! I'm rich! My claim has gold, real gold! *Tons* of it!" His joy was dampened only by the sight of Possum—and the realization that he would have to share his wealth with this shabby, garrulous mucker.

"Well, I made you rich, too, Possum," said Old Sam begrudgingly, "but don't give me no thanks for it. I sure wouldn't have done it if I'd known."

Possum seemed to acquire new stature with the news. He was too stunned to speak at first, then he was filled with wonder.

"Why, why I'm a *somebody*," he whispered to himself. "I'm not just old Possum Nublick now. I'm a man of means!" Over and over he repeated his phrases before full realization came to him and he started to celebrate.

Possum's ego grew as fast as his riches did, and before long the town longed for the peaceful days when he was nothing but a bum, even though a noisy one.

"Why, he acts like the king of the county!" complained Joe Garrigan, as he huddled over his beer with a couple of cronies. "Remember that day I strung him up on that coat rack? Yesterday he came in here, clapped me on the back, took a couple of swigs that half-emptied my

bottle of best bourbon, and lifted a cigar out of my pocket. Then he says, 'Garrigan, you always were a generous chap. You shared your hospitality with me. The least I can do is repay you. When I'm mayor of Moccasin Gulch, which honor I expect shortly, I shall make you county coroner. With that embalming fluid you serve here, the job should be a natural!' Then he tossed me a dime—for a buck's worth of whiskey, mind you," continued Garrigan—"and paraded out of here like he was the cock of the walk! The nerve of the guy!"

"Yeah," replied Old Sam. "And the thing that kills me is that it's *my money* that's filling his sails. He's serious about running for mayor. He's been glad-handing all over the town. He's getting somewhere, too. A lot of these hill rats think that big show of his is real stuff!"

Tim McGregor tossed off his beer. "If that guy takes over this town, all of the *responsible* citizens like *us* might just as well clear out of town. He'll ruin it. He's talking about changing the name to Slipper City. He won't allow nobody to call him 'Possum' now. It's *Sylvester*, if you please!"

The three sat mournfully moping, when Sheriff Connally strode through the swinging doors. "A quick one, Garrigan! I've had about all I can take this afternoon. Possum had me cornered and he . . . Hey! What's the matter. You all look like you'd seen your claims go under water!"

"The same thing that's troubling you, Connally," groaned Garrigan. "Possum Nublick."

"Huh! You haven't seen anything yet," said the Sheriff as he joined the group. "He's out in the square now, making a speech. He claims he's goin' to make Moccasin Gulch the Acropolis of the West—and everybody's fallin' for it!"

Long after the others had left, Garrigan mulled over the prospect of Possum Nublick running Moccasin Gulch. Then, calling his wife to take over the bar for a couple of hours, he left. First he sought out Old Sam.

"Sam," he said. "If I remember rightly, you started a shaft over toward the creek bed. What ever happened to that?"

"I haven't thought much about it since I made the big strike at the Poker Luck," replied Sam. "I sure wish that was the claim that had come through, instead of the one I had to split with Possum. It doesn't amount to anything, though. I went in about twenty feet. There wasn't a sign of anything that was even a distant cousin of gold ore."

"It's not much use to you, then, huh?"

"Nope! Want it?"

Garrigan's eyes twinkled. "I might. Listen to this here plan of mine." The two huddled together. Sam started to snicker, then burst into a loud guffaw. "I'm with you, Garrigan. We'll scotch that mucker yet!"

The Gold Coin customers were astounded when Garrigan came out as the leader of Possum's political campaign. His switch in sympathy baffled some, but enraged even more—particularly Sheriff Connally and Old Sam, who spearheaded the opposition. Soon Possum was counting on him as his strongest cohort. His confidence in Garrigan was clinched when the bartender suggested a sure plan for putting Possum into office. "Possum—I mean, Nublick," he said, "I've got a bit of property down by the creek. It looks pretty promising, but I haven't got the time or money to develop it. Now you, you're a born miner, a born manager, a big investor, one might say. There's a fortune in this, if you'll take it over. But you want to run the county, too. I'll split my claim three ways—one third for you for mining it, one third for me 'cause it's my land, and one third to clinch the mayoralty."

"What're ya talking about, Garrigan?" asked Possum. "Buying votes?"

"In a way, yes!" Garrigan replied. "Promise the people of the county one-third of the profits of the mine for developing the town! They'll love it! You'll have the election in your lap."

* * *

By the night before election, feeling was running high, to put it mildly. But Possum's mine had caught the fancy of all the hundreds of miners who hadn't made their lucky strike yet—which meant most of the town. Possum's crews were already digging away. Reports of the first ore out of the mine were fabulous—even richer than the Poker Luck—and they still hadn't hit the main lode. The campaign was to be high-lighted with a forty-man crew digging all night, accompanied by bands, speeches and free beer. The climax was Possum's midnight speech.

" . . . to the enlightened citizenry of Moccasin Gulch, soon to be glorified throughout the world as Slipper City, I give the wealth of her own hills, the profits of the earth on which she grew," cried Possum. There was wild applause. "We'll pave the streets with gold, shingle the roofs with gilt flake, build . . ."

Possum's flowering oratory was interrupted. The foreman of the crew rushed up to the platform. "We've hit it! The *main lode*! It's the biggest thing in Moccasin—I mean—Slipper City! Wait till you see it! They're bringing some out right now!" Waves of cheers and shouts greeted the announcement. All eyes turned toward the entrance to the shaft. Greedy eyes centered on Possum, who was almost hysterical with power and luck.

"Here you are, everybody!" he shouted. "The gold I promised you, the gold that's going to make Slipper City the Acropo . . . the Acro . . ." His words strangled in his throat. He stared at the shaft dumbfounded. He couldn't understand what his eyes were telling him.

"*Possums!*" A voice at the front called out.

"Hundreds of possums!" There was silence for a moment, then wave upon wave of laughter—raucous, drunken laughter that echoed to the hills. The small, furred, frightened animals ran frantically through the crowd, adding to the hysteria. "Possums! The Possum Bonanza! Old Possum Nublick is a magician. He turns gold into possums!" It was hours before the laughter and mockery died down. Nublick had long since departed, completely humiliated.

The next day, Connally was elected by a tremendous majority. Nublick wasn't seen all day long. He didn't dare come out in public. The jibes and jokes were too much for his flimsy ego.

After Garrigan cleared the Gold Coin of the celebrating customers, he and Sam Hart settled down for a nightcap.

"Well, Sam," said the bartender. "How much do I owe you for the possums—and where in tarnation did you get 'em?"

"I got my brother in Virginia to buy 'em up at five bucks a head! It set me back almost a thousand dollars, what with transporting 'em here, but it sure was worth it!"

The two rose, and Garrigan blew out the lantern. "I'd give my eye teeth to know what Possum's thinking about right now. I bet it'll be a long time before he tries that 'Sylvester' stuff in Moccasin City. Oh, by the way, I'll get my boys to take the ore we salted Possum's mine with back over to the Poker Luck. And thanks for the loan, Sam!"

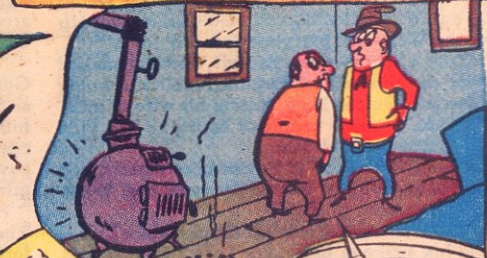
"Any time, Garrigan," replied Sam. "I've had more fun out of that small load of ore than all the rest of the mine put together! Incidentally, you'll be glad to know that Possum came to see me to-day. He sold his half interest back to me—for a lot more than the price of that poker game, to be sure—but it's sure good to know he's clearing out of here. I bet he's sick of the company of his fellow possums!"

THE END

WESTERN WACKIES



OKAY, MURCHISON! NOW YOU'RE AN OFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE X-BAR-X RANCH!



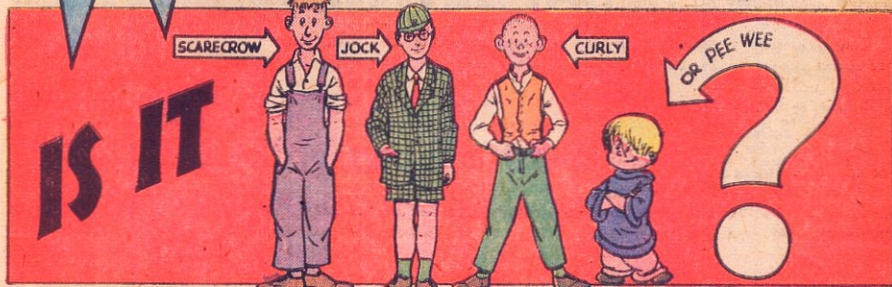
OH, THAT JASEN WAS STANDING NEAR THE STOVE AND THE HEAT GOT OFF HIS BULLET-BELT!



I'VE BEEN GIFTING THIS RIVER BED FOR TWO DAYS, LOOKING FOR YOUR RING— AND ALL I GET ARE THESE DANGED LITTLE YELLOW ROCKS!

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4th PRIZE



5th PRIZE



6th PRIZE



7th PRIZE



8th PRIZE



9th PRIZE



10th PRIZE

Letters must be received before midnight, February 25, 1950. Lev Gleason, Publisher will be the judge and his decision will be final. In case of a tie, duplicate prizes will be awarded. Only one letter from each voter will be considered. Neatness will not count. Letters will be judged solely on their originality and sincerity. All letters become the sole property of the publisher and no letters can be returned.

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most any part of the body with

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DOCTORS PROVE BY ACTUAL TEST THAT THIS EASY TO USE SPOT REDUCER HELPS LOSE POUNDS AND INCHES WHERE IT SHOWS MOST. Yes . . . Doctors say that this method of reducing will help you lose weight easily, pleasantly, safely. Nothing internal to take. No pills, laxatives or harmful drugs. Just think of it you can lose weight in SPOTS, just in the places it shows most. All you do is follow the instructions of this amazing, new, scientifically designed SPOT REDUCER.

HOW SPOT REDUCER WORKS. The Spot Reducer uses the age old principle of massage. It breaks down excess fatty tissue, tones the muscles and flesh and the increased awakened blood circulation carries away waste fat economically, simply, pleasantly. In a recent Medical Book, edited by the chairman and two other members of Council on Physical Therapy of AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, the following is stated on page 34, Chapter 18, Vol. 3: "Beyond all question something can be done by massage to reduce local deposits of FAT . . . There can however, be no question that massage applied to the region of the HIPS can and does, reduce the amount of fatty deposits in this region". This book is a reliable unbiased source of information and many doctors refer to it for the last word in Physical Therapy. This prompted us to develop and have doctors test the SPOT REDUCER.

HERE IS PROOF POSITIVE THAT THE SPOT REDUCER WORKS!

In recent tests made by outstanding licensed Medical Doctors on more than 100 people with the use of Spot Reducer everyone lost pounds and inches in a few short weeks, in HIPS, ABDOMEN, LEGS, ARMS, BUTTOCKS, etc. And the users say: "IT WAS FUN AND THEY ENJOYED IT." The Spot Reducer worked as well on men as it did on women. The Spot Reducer way controls weight, once down to normal it helps retain your new "SLIM FIGURE" as long as you like. Look and feel better, see bulges disappear within the first weeks. The beauty of this scientifically designed SPOT REDUCER is that the method is so simple and easy, the results quick, sure and harmless. Thousands have lost weight this way-in hips, abdomen, legs, arms, buttocks, etc. The same method used by stage, screen and radio personalities and leading reducing salons. The Spot Reducer can be used in the privacy of your own room in your spare time.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE WITH A 10-DAY FREE TRIAL

If the "Spot Reducer" doesn't do the wonders for you as it has for others, if you don't lose weight and inches where you want to lose it most, if you're not 100% delighted with the results, your money will be returned at once.

MAIL COUPON NOW!

The "Spot Reducer" Co., Dept. 141
871 Broad St., Newark, New Jersey

Send me at once, for \$2 cash, check or money order, the "Spot Reducer" and your famous Special Formula Body Massage Cream, postpaid. If I am not 100% satisfied, my money will be refunded.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

I enclose \$5.00. Send the Giant Size Body Massage Cream with My Spot Reducer.

SENT ON APPROVAL



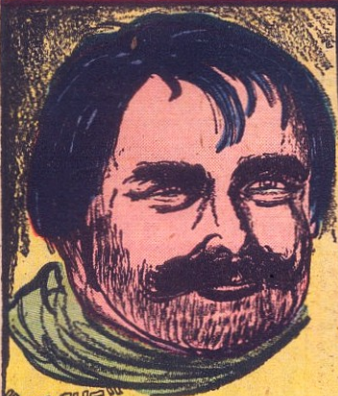
Miss Nancy Mace, Bronx, N. Y., says: "I went from size 16 dress to a size 12 with the use of the Spot Reducer. I am glad I used it."

FREE

A large size jar of Special Formula Body Massage Cream will be included FREE with your order for the "Spot Reducer."

SURE AS SHOOTIN'

by **CLAUDE MOORE**
DRAWN ESPECIALLY FOR
"BLACK DIAMOND"



"APACHE"
BILL

MADE A LIVING BY ACTING AS A GUIDE FOR STRANGERS! A REAL DESPERADO IN APPEARANCE, HE GOT HIS NAME (HE SAID) FOR BEING SUCH A GOOD INDIAN FIGHTER! ACTUALLY THIS FELLOW COULDN'T RIDE A HORSE, COULDN'T SHOOT STRAIGHT AND COULDN'T TELL AN INDIAN FROM A MEXICAN!



WOMEN OF THE OLD WEST KNITTED THEIR STOCKINGS OUT OF BUFFALO HAIR! - THEY WERE GOOD FOR 2 YEARS OF HARD WEAR!

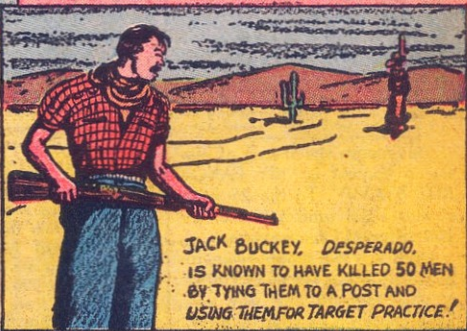


SAM TUCKER OF SHERIDAN WAS TRIED IN COURT AND FOUND NOT GUILTY OF A CATTLE RUSTLING CHARGE - BUT SAM HAD A FEW NASTY THINGS TO SAY ABOUT JUDGE LYNCH AS HE WAS LEAVING THE COURTROOM! THE JUDGE ORDERED THAT TUCKER BE BROUGHT BACK INTO THE COURTROOM, CHARGED HIM WITH CONTEMPT OF COURT AND SENTENCED HIM TO BE HANGED! - AND HE WAS HANGED!



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FRANCIS ABBEY
RODE HORSEBACK
5 DAYS 13 HOURS,
STOPPING ONLY
LONG ENOUGH
TO CHANGE
HORSES!

800 MILES
Santa Fe, New Mexico
to Independence, Mo.



JACK BUCKEY, DESPERADO, IS KNOWN TO HAVE KILLED 50 MEN BY TYING THEM TO A POST AND USING THEM FOR TARGET PRACTICE!



THESE TWO GRAVES OUT IN THE DESERT NEAR CALIFORNIA TELL THEIR OWN STORY!

UNITED STATES BARGAIN



It sounds unbelievable, but it's true! 50 different United States stamps ranging in age as far back as over 90 years and in face value as high as one dollar, air mails included, including also, Extra 3 Jap Occupation of Philippines, all for only 10c to approval applicants. Please state whether approval shall consist of U. S. or foreign stamps or both.

CLUBS STAMP CO. 308 Fourth Ave., N. Y. 10, N. Y., Dept. 441

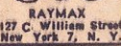
FREE! ROOSEVELT COLLECTION!

Amazing Roosevelt commemorative collection! First Postage 3c. Approvals. Mailed to a customer.

GRAHAM STAMP CO., Dept. C
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One packet of Roosevelt Stamps. Everything only 10c to approval buyers.
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WIN STAMPS!!

This month the theme of our stamp contest is "MY FAVORITE STAMP". To the 25 best replies I will send a packet of 100 different Chinese stamps.

Here are the simple rules. In 25 words or less tell which stamp is your favorite and why you have chosen it as your favorite.

— Originality and neatness will count. Send your entry on post card or letter to

STAMP PAGE EDITOR
Lev Gleason Comic Group
114 East 32nd Street
New York 16, N. Y.

The entries for this month's contest should be post marked by February 28, 1950.

STAMP PAGE by SIDNEY M. ELIAS

The Condor

ONE of the largest existing birds of flight, is the condor. Its average length is four feet from its beak to the end of its tail, while its wings have a spread of approximately nine feet from tip to tip. It is a member of the vulture family and enjoys carrion (decaying flesh of dead animals). One condor of average size has been observed to devour a calf, a sheep, and a dog during a single week. When in search of food they are known to attack sheep, goats, and deer. Shepherds hunt them down when they observed in their vicinity in order to protect their flock. The condor is easily caught for it is a stupid bird being more intent on a feast than on its own safety. Because of this fact, a barricade is made of sticks and stones and a dead animal is placed within it. When the condor sees the carcass it swoops down for a feast. Having devoured the animal and often to excess, the extra weight requires him to make an added run to get off the ground. His flight is thus similar to that of an airplane in which a dash down a runway must be made before it can take to the air. Being blocked by the barricade, the bird cannot easily fly and is captured, or killed. As the condor is a heavy sleeper and sleeps most of the day, many are caught by climbing up a tree and noosing them before they awaken.

The condors are found in South America along the Andes Mountains from the equator to the Straits of Magellan. The favorite roosts are at heights of 10,000 to 16,000 feet and at levels where there is perpetual snow. They are powerful and graceful flyers for they sail in the air without flapping their wings.

Air mail stamps of nearly all the South American countries bordering on the Andes have shown pictures of the condor on their designs. Among these countries are Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, and Peru. A number of regular postage stamps of Bolivia have depicted the condor on its designs.

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PONY EXPRESS STAMP

only 49 all different others. Only 10c to approval applicants.
V. L. TIPPETT
1118 Clay Ave., Peñham Manor, N. Y.

GIGANTIC CANADIAN BARGAIN

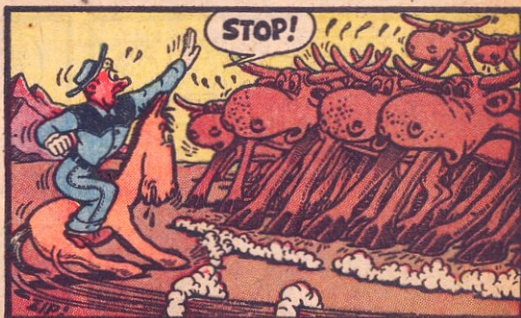
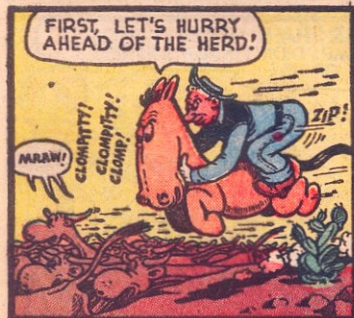
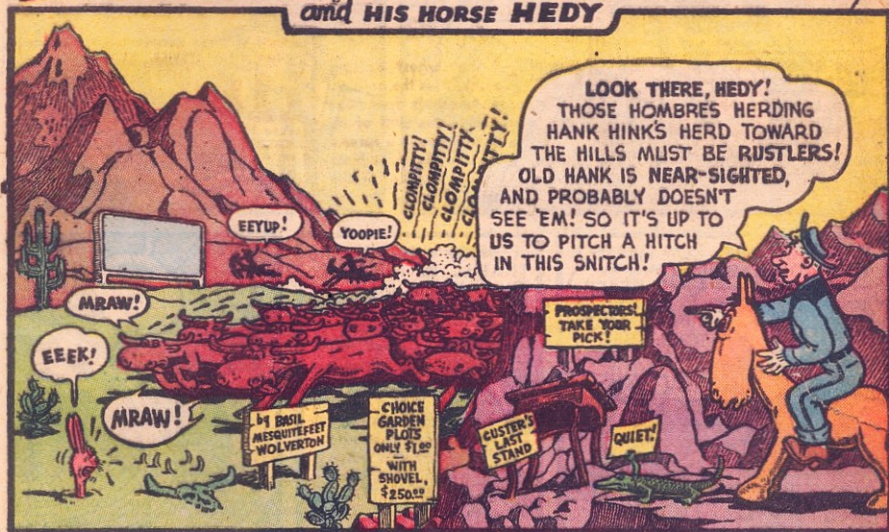
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Box 118 Dept. C St. Orano, B. I.

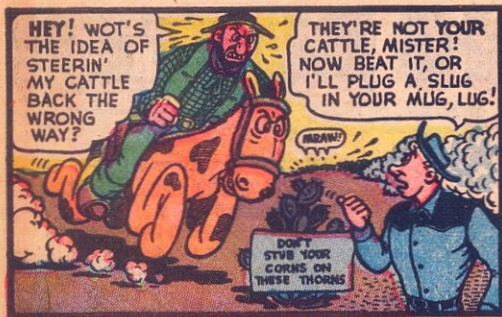
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BINGBANG BUSTER

and HIS HORSE HEDY







THE END

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STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 OF BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN, published bi-monthly at New York, N. Y., for October 1, 1949.

State of New York
County of New York)

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Hannah Schreiber, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that she is the Business Manager of BLACK DIAMOND WESTERN and that the following is, to the best of her knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily, weekly, semi-weekly or tri-weekly newspaper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the acts of March 3, 1933, and July 2, 1946 (section 537, Penal Law and Regulations), printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher: Lev Gleason Publications, Inc., 114 R. 32nd St., New York 16, N. Y. Editor: Charles Biro, 107 E. 63rd St., New York 21, N. Y. Managing Editor: Bob Wood, 400 E. 57th St., New York 22, N. Y. Business manager: Hannah Schreiber, 238 R. 23rd St., New York 10, N. Y.

2. That the owner is (If owned by a corporation, its name and address shall be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.) Lev Gleason Publications, Inc., 114 R. 32nd St., New York 16, N. Y. Levert S. Gleason, Park Drive, Chappaqua, N. Y. Bella Kinfield, 97-30 65th Drive, Forest Hills, L. I. Morita Roenthal, Riverside Memorial Chapel, 76th St. & Amsterdam Ave., N. Y. 23, N. Y. Rosalind Roenthal, R.D. No. 1, Mt. Kisco, N. Y. Judy Roenthal, R.D. No. 1, Mt. Kisco, N. Y. Jane Roenthal, R.D. No. 1, Mt. Kisco, N. Y. Pat Roenthal, 101 Central Park West, New York 23, N. Y. Ellen J. Roenthal, 101 Central Park West, New York 23, N. Y. Carol L. Roenthal, 101 Central Park West, New York 23, N. Y. Peter Roenthal, 101 Central Park West, New York 23, N. Y.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner, and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by law.

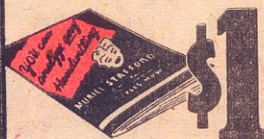
5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above is _____ (This information is required from daily, weekly, semi-weekly, and tri-weekly newspapers only.)

HANNAH SCHREIBER, Business Mgr.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14th day of September, 1949.

(SEAL) MANUEL HEBLICH
(My commission expires March 30, 1950.)

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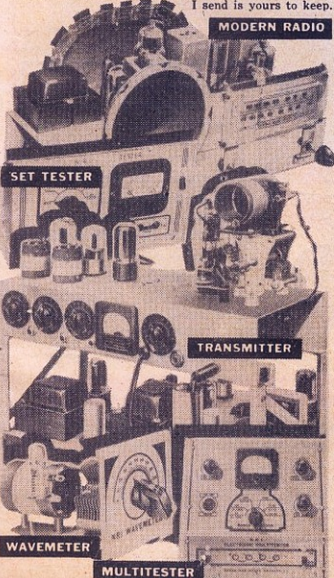
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